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BUT ONE AVENUE OF ESCAPE OPEN

Boers Must Retreat Northward From Wepener.

DARE NOT RISK BATTLE

Roberts Force Now Surrounds Them on Three Sides and Is Hastening to Close Up the Last Gap Through Which They May Avoid Capture.

LONDON, April 25, 5 a. m.—Reports that the siege of Wepener has been practically raised were apparently premature.

The Boer attack upon Colonel Dalgety's northern position, as described from Maseru, was probably a final attempt to rush the garrison before securing a safe retreat, and as Colonel Dalgety successfully repulsed the attack, little further anxiety is felt on his account.

Lord Roberts has now spread a net with some 40,000 or more men and 150 guns, covering the whole western semicircle around Wepener, while General Hamilton has occupied the waterworks, practically without opposition. The Boers now can only escape, without risking an encounter, northward to Ladybrand, and the chance of the successful outcome of the plans of Lord Roberts depends on whether the British troops can reach Thabanchu and Ladybrand before the retreating commandoes from Dewetadorp and Wepener.

All correspondents report that the roads are in a terrible condition, which accounts for the slow progress of the British columns, and if the Boers are as well informed of the British plans as they hitherto have been they are likely again to escape.

It is now within three weeks of the date set for the British occupation of Pretoria and although the present operations, as suggested in some quarters, may be the beginning of the main advance it is not certain that they will not entail a further halt at Bloemfontein.

THE WEPENER CASUALTIES.

LONDON, April 24.—The official list of the British losses at Wepener from April 24th to April 18th, shows: Killed—three officers and 18 men. Wounded—14 officers and 86 men.

WEPENER IS NOW SAFE.

Another Attack Repulsed Yesterday and the Garrison Reported Well.

LONDON, April 24.—The war office has issued the following from Lord Roberts:

"Bloemfontein, April 24.—Generals Brabant and Hart yesterday turned the position occupied by the enemy who tried to prevent their moving and got into telegraphic communication with Colonel Dalgety, the commandant of the beleaguered garrison at Wepener, who reported all well.

"General Brabant has three wounded, and one missing. Three were wounded on the previous day. The border regiment had seven wounded.

"At 11 p. m., yesterday, Brabant and Hart were eight miles south of Wepener. The Eleventh division, under General Pole-Carew, and General French's two brigades of cavalry reached Twede Cenik yesterday afternoon, without having met with serious opposition.

"Heliograph communication has been established with General Rundle. A patrol of the Seventh Dragoons, under Lieutenant Jones, which was reported missing yesterday, has rejoined General French's camp, with the exception of Corporal Taylor and Private Cook, who are believed to be wounded and prisoners.

"The mounted infantry yesterday under General Ian Hamilton, occupied the works at Sonnes Post. As the enemy are holding the neighboring hills in some strength, the Ninth division, consisting of Colonel Smith Dorrison's and General MacDonald's brigades, has been dispatched to support Hamilton.

"General Maxwell's brigade, formerly General Chermides', of the Seventh

division, yesterday moved eastward and seized the hills covering the wagon bridge over Modder river at Krans Kraal, an important communication, much used by the Boers during the last three weeks.

"Our only casualty was Private Burns, one of the South Wales mounted riflemen, who was taken prisoner.

"The Boers severely attacked Colonel Dalgety's northern position facing Bokpoort Aston, under whose fire they made a determined advance. The British returned a heavy fire, before which the Boers recoiled, after extending across the flats and maintaining a continuous long range fusillade for some hours.

"The artillery can be heard in the direction of Dewetadorp, but there is no sign that the British relief column in that quarter has advanced farther."

RUNDLE IS OVERMATCHED.

Wepener Cannot Be Relieved Until Reinforcements Have Arrived.

LONDON, April 24.—All interest is centered in the complicated situation in the southeast portion of the Orange Free State, from which developments of the utmost importance must issue in the near future. General Rundle, it would seem, has found the Boers confronting him at Dewit's Dorp, in stronger force than he cares to engage, and so he is marking time, pending the arrival of supports. While General Rundle is preparing to strike Dewit's Dorp, Generals Brabant and Hart are pushing along the frontier of Basutoland, where they will be able to frustrate any attack on General Rundle's right, and Generals French and Pole-Carew are hastening from Bloemfontein to harry the Boers line of retreat northwards.

In the meanwhile, the burgher forces occupying Thabanchu are in a position to fight a delaying action, giving the Boer forces at Dewit's Dorp and Wepener time to retire in case of defeat, and it seems as though General French must dispose of this Thabanchu force before he can reach the rear of the Boer forces opposing Generals Rundle and Brabant, otherwise his flank will be open to assault.

The Boers driven out of Leeuw Kop will probably rally at Thabanchu, where a stiff fight may be expected. Should the British fail in this attempt to bring about another Paardeberg, it must immensely affect the larger issues of the war, as it will undoubtedly lead to a persistent repetition of the guerrilla tactics which have been largely responsible for the penning up of Lord Roberts at Bloemfontein for so many weeks.

During General Alderson's advance on Leeuw Kop, the Canadians found themselves in a tight corner Sunday, near Donkerpoort. The Canadian mounted infantry sent to reconnoiter the Boer position approached within 300 yards of a farm lying the hospital flag, under cover of which the Boers opened such a hot fire on the Canadians that they were unable to attempt to re-advance until another force of Canadians covered their retreat by threatening the rear of the Boer position.

NEW HAMPSHIRE REPUBLICANS. Among the Delegates to the National Convention Is a McKinley Democrat.

CONCORD, N. H., April 24.—The republican state convention to elect delegates to the national convention at Philadelphia was held here today.

A motion that the secretary cast one ballot for J. H. Gallinger, Frank Jones, Wm. C. Clarke and Thomas N. Hastings as delegates to the national convention was lost, after F. P. Rowell, of Newport, had expressed opposition to the election of Jones, whom he declared to be a renegade from the democratic party and unfit to represent the state at a republican national convention.

J. C. Tyford, of Concord, replied that the movement to send Jones was designed to cement with the party those democrats who voted with the republicans in 1896 for McKinley.

The ballot for delegates resulted in the choice of the four persons named, but while the others each received more than 470 votes, Jones had 385. The delegates were not instructed.

The platform says: President McKinley has met and solved graver national problems than have fallen to the lot of any of his predecessors save Washington and Lincoln. His renomination is recommended.

An amendment offered to the resolutions declaring for self government for Cuba and the Philippines was voted down.

REPUBLICANS IN OHIO CONVENTION

Great Demonstration for the McKinley Administration.

HANNA'S NOTABLE SPEECH

Reasons Why the American People Are Satisfied With the Rule of the Republican Party Set Forth by Temporary Chairman Nevins.

COLUMBUS, O., April 24.—The republican state convention made a great demonstration here today. Usually there is only one keynote speech, that of the temporary chairman, but there were two today, and one that caused more comment than any other convention speech in the history of Ohio republicans was made by Senator Hanna. It was very much of a Hanna day without discussion or discordant notes.

At the district meeting in the afternoon his friends were selected on the new state committee and all other committees. There were sharp contests in some districts, but they were mostly between so-called preferences. When Senator Hanna entered the convention hall there was a great demonstration and he was forced to bow his acknowledgments from the platform. In all the speeches and other proceedings today there was no reference at any time to the questions of currency, tariff or any other former issues.

Robert M. Nevins, the temporary chairman, made a decisive hit in his forcible delivery and especially in the peculiar emphasis he put on the words "an admiral," referring to Dewey. He said in part:

"We can congratulate ourselves upon promises kept, platforms fulfilled and pledges redeemed. No party was ever richer in promises than the democratic party, and no party was ever scarier in fulfillment. When we look back but four years and see the condition of the country when Grover Cleveland was serving his last term and compare it with today, we can scarcely believe that only four years have elapsed. At that time labor was seeking employment, mills and factories were closed, farm produce was selling at the lowest prices and the people, instead of building for the future were wondering whence would come their daily bread.

"We entered upon the campaign of education in 1896 trusting to the honor and integrity of the American people. When the question was presented as to whether we would repudiate our debts in part or in whole by paying in a de-based currency, the republican party unhesitatingly went to the people, believing that it could trust them at all times and under all circumstances to do what was right.

"The result we know. In no uncertain terms went out the fiat that repudiation either in whole or in part would never be permitted by the people of this country. Ohio's gifted son, William McKinley, was triumphantly elected and every promise that had been made by the national convention in St. Louis, has through his administration been loyally fulfilled."

After referring to the war with Spain and the treaty of Paris, and the acquisition of the Philippines, he said concerning the latter:

"We were compelled in order that there might a proper peaceful government worthy of this country to put down the insurrection against our flag and to crush out the rebellion against our government. We hold the islands not for the purpose of tyrannizing over them as did Spain, not for the purpose of brutalizing the people, not for the purpose of wringing from them gold or revenue, but in order that we may train the people in the right ideas of government, educate them as to what is necessary to maintain and build up a people—civilize them as we understand it—in the highest and best degree.

"I cannot understand how any man born and raised in the United States of America, familiar with the spirit of our people, governed by its institutions, reared under our flag, can believe for one instant that any administration that ever could be elected could or would dare to do anything except that which would lead to the peace and the happiness and the prosperity of this people. Nor can I conceive how any man who was born under the flag and who has one drop of American blood in his veins could say that we should haul down our flag and withdraw our soldiers from the Philippine Islands, so long as there is one man in armed rebellion or so long as there is a single individual in all the islands in open resistance to the government and the flag.

"There are not enough anti-imperialists or anti-expansionists; there are not enough democratic howlers; there are not enough copperheads and traitors in the United States to tear down that flag so long as there is armed rebellion

or so long as the American people are responsible to the civilized nations of the earth for the government of the islands."

Advertising to the Puerto Rico tariff bill, he said:

"When that measure is carefully considered in reference to the needs and wants of the people it will be found to be not only the wisest and best, but the most charitable that could be enacted. And that measure will bring to the people of Puerto Rico in time education, happiness and prosperity.

"I know there have been some differences of opinion in our own ranks as to the tariff part of this measure, some sentiment as to the constitution following the flag, but I believe that when the conditions and the wants and the needs of the people are considered, these differences will pass away. We must remember that on that little island there are almost a million people, 99 per cent of them illiterate, unable to read or write and entirely unlearned in the ways and arts of government and utterly unfitted at this time to govern themselves.

"It is expected by this measure that enough revenue will be secured to pay the expenses and in due time to educate and bring the people up to our own standard of citizenship and then we will incorporate them into our union as full grown citizens."

After referring to the prosperity of the country and the expansion of its trade, he continued:

"And why change this? And for what? Has there been anything in the past of the democratic party that would warrant it in being placed in power? Has it changed any since it had power? Has it changed any since 1896? Does it not still, through its mouthpiece and its leader, insist upon the Chicago platform with all its vagaries, all its demagoguery, all its revolution? Who would want to be a democrat? Who would want to belong to that party which finds its chiefest source of power and promise in the want of prosperity and the lack of good times? Who wants to belong to a party that goes into partnership with the chinch bug and the locust, that wants to depend upon drought and failure of crops in order to win? Who wants to belong to a party, the members of which know that as the price of labor goes down, their hopes of success go up?

After the demonstration at the close of his address, Chairman Nevins attempted to proceed with the order of business, but the convention was bound to call out Senator Hanna.

After Senator Hanna addressed the convention, the districts were called for members of a committee on credentials, resolutions, order of business, etc.

After announcing that all the committees would be expected to complete their work tonight, the convention adjourned till tomorrow.

GONE TO JOIN CLARK.

Quay Case Decided Adverse to the Would-Be Senator.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—(Senate)—The final debate on the case of M. S. Quay began at 11 o'clock. Notwithstanding the comparatively early hour of the meeting a large number of senators were present when the session opened and many people were in the galleries.

A resolution offered last week by Mr. Culbertson was passed. It requires the president to inform the senate what commissions have been created or appointed by the executive since March 4, 1885, in reference to the foreign relations of the territories of the United States, to inquire into the war with Spain, the personnel of the commission, the total compensation or allowance of each of the commissioners, and all of the employees of the commission.

A bill authorizing the secretary of war to make regulations governing the running of loose logs, steamboats and rafts in certain rivers was passed.

Consideration of the Quay case was then resumed. Penrose continued his argument begun late yesterday afternoon. Mcumber delivered a carefully prepared constitutional argument in opposition to the seating of Quay. Only a brief while ago he was regarded as an advocate of Quay's claim, but he announced in his speech that after careful consideration, he had changed his opinion. The change, he said, was not based upon emotion, but upon reason.

In his extended argument, Lindsay presented the legal and constitutional reasons why, in his opinion, Quay ought not to be seated. He held that the appointment of senators by a state executive was provided for by the framers of the constitution merely to provide for the filling of vacancies that may be regarded as unexpected.

The vote on Quay case was taken at 4 o'clock. The resolution which declared Mr. Quay "not" entitled to his seat was first laid before the senate. Mr. Chandler moved to strike out the word "not," and on that the vote was taken. The motion was adopted by a vote of 33 to 32, and Mr. Quay will not be admitted to the senate.

NEW YORK JOCKEY KILLED.

NEW YORK, April 24.—At the aqueduct track today Jockey O'Leary was thrown from his mount and killed. Two other jockeys were hurt in the collision.

SULZER FINALLY HAS SUCCEEDED

His Example Precipitates a Fight in Coeur d'Alene Committee.

SINCLAIR WAS ASSAULTED

While Giving His Testimony He Is Jumped On by a Co-Attorney with Sulzer, of the Strikers, and a General Malce Enthusias.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—An encounter between Sinclair and Robertson occurred today while Sinclair was testifying of his order forbidding the meeting at the miners' cemetery July 11th, last, commemorating the deaths resulting in the riot of 1892. He said his motive did not forbid women from assembling to put flowers on the graves. Attorney Robertson contradicted the witness and said it did specifically prohibit women from assembling.

"Do you ask that as a question or state it as a fact?" asked Sinclair. "I state it as a fact," replied Robertson.

"It is a lie," responded Sinclair. Robertson made a lunge at Sinclair, but the distance was too great to permit a blow. Representatives Sulzer, Hay, each and other members sprung forward to stop the fracas.

In the few minutes that the melee was at its height members were standing on and jumping over the large committee table, seeking to get at the contestants. The latter were in a confused tangle of chairs and witnesses on the further side of the table.

After Robertson's first lunge, he rushed on Sinclair, who was sitting in the witness stand, unprepared for the onslaught. The two went over in a crash on the floor and were then separated. No actual blows were struck. Sinclair, when order was restored, resumed his seat in the witness chair and, after some vigorous cautionary remarks by the chairman against disorders, resumed his recital.

Neither contestants showed any outward mark of the affray.

Sinclair completed his direct testimony during the afternoon. In view of the excitement it was deemed best not to open the cross examination, which will be conducted by Robertson. And the committee adjourned until tomorrow.

Sinclair left the committee room joking over the occurrence.

TO INDEMNIFY FOREIGNERS.

Hereafter Louisiana Will Have to Pay for the Fun of Lynching Italians.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Judiciary committee of the house today directed a favorable report on the bill providing means for indemnifying foreigners injured in person or property through mob violence or otherwise in this country.

The measure grows out of the lynching of Italians in Louisiana and the representations made by Italy.

CLARK WILL RESIGN.

Expects to Go Before People of Montana and Ask to Be Returned.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The Herald says: Wm. A. Clark, of Montana, will resign his seat in the United States senate.

The communication by which he will make known to the senate his intentions has already been prepared. It may be presented this afternoon. It may be held until later in the session, but it will be handed in before the senate has acted upon the report of the committee on privileges and elections declaring that he was not duly and legally elected.

Senator Clark will carry his resignation with him when he goes to the capitol today.

It is known that Senator Clark has come to the conclusion that the most dignified course for him to pursue is to withdraw gracefully and to go before the people of his state with a request that they give him a vote of confidence and again send him to Washington.

HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH.

Coeur d'Alene Investigating Committee Refuses to Summon Any More Testimony.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The Coeur d'Alene investigating committee in executive session today voted adversely and on party lines on a motion by Representative Sulzer to summon as witnesses Lieutenant Governor Hutchinson, of Idaho; Father Becker, a priest; who sought admission to the prison, and Edward Boyce, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who was mentioned in Governor Steunenberg's testimony.